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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Forty-eighth session
Agenda item 6

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION AND OF APARTHEID, IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION UNDER COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 8 (XXIII)

Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in consultative status (category II)

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement, which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

[8 August 1996]

1. We are extremely grateful to the Sub-Commission on Human Rights for circulating in 1995 our written statement on the human rights situation in Nagaland. But as human rights violations there remain unabated and the situation is grave we are constrained to submit the present written statement, in follow-up to the previous statement.

2. Ever since the occupation of Nagaland by the armed forces of India and Burma in complete violation of Naga nationhood, Governments of India have declared "States of emergency" in the form of a "President's rule" and "Disturbed Area" more than 10 times. Armed forces exercise the fullest power under the draconian Armed Forces Special Powers Act 1958. Again, in their desperate attempt to crush the Nagas and their unquestionable right to self-determination once and for all, the Government of India again declared Nagaland to be a disturbed area on 1 April 1995, deploying additional 50,000 special troops, called 3rd Corps. Ten thousand Burmese troops have also been constantly operating on the eastern side in coordination with the Indian forces. The killing of innocent civilians never stops.

3. The adoption of the new policy of eliminating arrested persons in Indian Army custody in the most cruel manner, which is a serious violation of the Geneva Conventions, has once again shocked the conscience of the people. To cite only a few examples:

(a) Captain Juneson arrested by the 3rd Corps of the Indian Army on 28 February 1996, was shot dead in their custody;

(b) Sgt. Maj. Soreingam was arrested, tortured and shot dead on 29 March 1996 in Indian Army custody;

(c) Lance Corporal Shihoto was arrested, tortured and shot dead on the same day in the same custody.

4. The central intelligence department and the army authorities of India have resorted to the most treacherous policy of using hired men to eliminate human rights activists, student and social activists, and church leaders. Only a few names out of the victims are given here for enlightenment:

	Particulars	Date	Place
1.	Mr. Avao Muivah, chief chemist, Sugar Mill (shot dead)	08-05-1995	Dimapur
2.	L. Thotshim, student (shot dead)	01-06-1995	Diphur
3.	N. Shimreishang, instructor St. Xavier School (shot dead)	16-09-1995	Jalukie
4.	Z. Thoton, coordinator, youth mission (shot dead)	11-10-1995	Kohima
5.	Rev. K.A. Shimray, Pastor Kohuma Tangkhul Baptist Church (shot dead)	04-11-1995	Kohima
6.	Sharpstone, student and human rights activist (abducted and killed)	March 1996	Dimapur
7.	Chanso Shimphrui, student activist (abducted, tortured and shot dead)	02-04-1996	Kohima
8.	V.N. Raikhan, teacher (abducted, tortured and killed)	02-05-1996	Phek

	Particulars	Date	Place
9.	Z.V. Yaaopei, advocate, human rights activist, social activist (shot dead)	23-05-1996	Dimapur
10.	Neisiehu, ex-chairman, Kohima-Town (shot dead)	20-03-1996	Kohima
11.	Thepfuvituo Angami (shot dead)	17-01-1996	Jotsoma
12.	Mr. Mapu Wati (tortured to death)	01-01-1996	Dimapur
13.	Huishu Village, Ukhrul district (100 houses burned down by Indian Army forces)	11-03-1996	Huishu
14.	Togheho, SDO, PWD (shot dead)	15-04-1995	Kohima
15.	Luithui Golmei, Sub-Division Officer, Tamenglong (shot dead)	21-12-1995	Tamenglong

5. Burning down of villages also continues. Huishu Village consisting of 100 houses in Ukhrul District, was burnt to ashes on 11 March 1996.

6. Hundreds of eastern Nagas are being forced to labour in the construction work for the road that connects Khammti town and Lahe to link up with the Indian military points in the west. They are not paid; they are not given the time either to cleanse or to harvest their fields.

7. Therefore, we earnestly appeal to the Sub-Commission to look into the atrocities committed by the Indian and the Burmese armed forces against the innocent Naga population and to recommend the case to the Commission for condemnation.

8. We also urge the authorities of the Sub-Commission kindly to recommend to the Commission on Human Rights that a fact-finding mission to be sent to Nagaland and to the neighbouring region so that they may be made aware of the state of affairs there.

9. Lastly, in view of the persisting violations of human rights we are compelled to plead with the Sub-Commission to recommend that the Commission assign a special rapporteur to take timely stock of the human rights situations in Nagaland. It is indispensable for bringing justice to the aggrieved peoples in the region.